

The Union and American.

VOL. VII.

GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1876.

NO. 48.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.

Twenty-one petitions from workmen and others for subsidy on the Texas Pacific Road, were presented.

Clayton called up the repeal of the restrictions on land sales but Frelinghuysen said Bruce, who was sick, wished to examine the bill. It went over.

A personal explanation by Sargent showed that the counsel for the members of the Board of Public Works defend their transactions in issuing district bonds.

The Committee on Patents reported favorably on the bill to extend the patent for shaping the heels of boots and shoes.

Hamilton introduced a bill giving the court of claims jurisdiction to hear and determine the claims of lawful owners or their legal representatives, of cotton seized after the 30th of June, 1865, by agents or officers of the Government where it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court that the seizure was made by a military officer, or a United States Treasury agent, and that the proceeds of such seizure were duly accounted for to the Government, when the court shall render judgment in favor of the claimant for the net proceeds of his cotton, and if it shall appear to the court that the military officers and aid agents of the Government failed to report accurately the names of persons from whom seizures were made according to law and their instructions or the locality from which the cotton so seized were taken, then the court shall give judgment in favor of the claimant for such a proportion of the number of bales seized from him as it bears to the whole number of bales of cotton seized after the 30th of June, 1865 and which arrived at any port in the State in which the claimant alleges his cotton was taken after seizure and the proceeds of which still remain in the Treasury. The bill is not to apply to any claim now pending in the court of claims for cotton seized prior to June 30th, 1865, nor to any claim not filed in the court of claims six months after the passage of the act.

Pinchback's case was resumed, the question being on Edmund's amendment, that was introduced in March last, that Pinchback be not admitted.

Morton gave a history of Pinchback's personal, military and political course, and read an affidavit Pinchback had been in the work house for assault and battery. He reiterated his former arguments made in the case. At the conclusion of Morton's speech, on motion of Alcorn the Senate went into executive session. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

On the motion of Douglass, a number of gentlemen formerly connected with the bureau of immigration were admitted to the floor.

The House went into committee on the whole on the private calendar, Holman in the chair.

The following bills passed: for the relief of Robt. Erwin, Savannah; John T. Burchell, Knoxville, Tenn. Adjourned till Monday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.

The chair submitted a memorial of the New York Board of Trade demonstrating the inexpediency of attempting the resumption of specie payment before the requisite conditions are ripe.

The bill allowing four per cent. interest on Alabama claims after judgment is given, passed.

The case of Pinchback was resumed. Thurman and Christianity spoke against and Howe in favor of his admission. No action.

HOUSE.

A large number of bills were presented and referred.

Kasson moved to suspend the rules so that the House might proceed to vote separately on the following two resolutions:

Resolved, That the constitutional authority of Congress to coin money and to regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, does not include the authority to issue the paper of the present as money, and in the judgment of the House the constitution never had conferred on Congress the power to issue in time of peace the promises or obligations of the government as a legal tender in payment of debts.

Resolved, That any legislation touching the legal tender currency of the Government, should keep steadily in view the resumption of specie payment, and should tend to enhance the value of that currency, for the redemption of which the faith of the United States has been pledged to its citizen,

Cox, of New York.—That is a very important subject. We ought to have a word to say about it. Holman.—The proposition ought to be divided.

The Speaker.—The gentleman from Iowa proposes that it be divided.

Cox.—I hope it will be referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Page, of California.—Oh, no. Fort.—The House ought to have the opinion of the Judiciary Committee upon it.

Kasson.—I must object to debate. Cox.—If I understand the proposition, it is not a vote on the merits of the question, but only a vote of the motion to suspend the rules.

Kasson.—If the vote be in the negative, it will be rejected on the resolution.

Randall.—Not a bit of it. The rules were not suspended—years, 96; says, 140, and the resolutions were not before the House.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs was directed to inquire into Minister Schenck's connection with the Emma Mine.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.

The Financial Committee reported adversely on the bill to secure the depositors of the Freedman's Bank.

The bill for the benefit of the Louisville Baptist Orphans' Home passed.

The Electoral Committee are instructed to consider the bill whereby people, through the elective franchise, may regulate and control their domestic affairs.

The Centennial bill was taken up. Morton said as soon as the Centennial was concluded he would call up Pinchback's case, and asked the Senate to remain in session until a vote was reached.

HOUSE.

The bill authorizing action in cases of death resulting from wrongful act, neglect or default in the District of Columbia, provided the amount does not exceed \$10,000, passed.

The bill amending section 856 of the revised statutes, by adding the following words: "In the adjustment of the accounts of said officers, an appeal shall be from the decision of the accounting officer of the Treasury to the Attorney-general, whose determination shall be final, passed.

The Judiciary Committee reported a bill repealing the bankrupt act. The first section repeals the act of the 21st of March, 1867, and all laws and parts of laws amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

The second section provides that all suits and proceedings, now pending in the United States Court wherein an adjudication in bankruptcy has been made, shall be proceeded with and be governed by the provisions of the existing laws, which are continued in force only for the purpose of closing up suits and processes now pending. The act is to take effect after the 1st of January, 1877. After some discussion of the technical points, the bill was passed—yeas, 178; nays, 58. After passage of the bill, an error was discovered in recital, the date of the original law being given as the 2d instead of the 21st of March. This mistake Lynde asked unanimous consent to have corrected, but Kasson, of Iowa, objected, remarking that the bill places the creditor in the power of the debtor class. The bill therefore goes to the Senate with that imperfection in it.

The diplomatic appropriation bill was resumed without action.

DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL SHOT AND KILLED.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 7.—The Avalanche's Brownsville, Tenn., special says Samuel Boyd, deputy United States Marshall, was shot and killed Saturday evening by H. M. Clarke, one of the editors of the Democrat, in a quarrel which grew out of a political discussion, which commenced in jest, Boyd accusing Clarke of having been a Ku-Klux leader, and Clarke retorting by saying that Boyd had been a Loyal League leader. Boyd responded by calling Clarke a d—d liar. Clarke asked him to retract the expression. Instead of doing so, Boyd put his hand behind him as if to draw a pistol, and advanced on Clarke, who drew a pistol and fired three shots, one taking effect in the right arm, another in the shoulder, and another in the breast. Boyd fell and soon expired. Clarke was arrested and held in \$8,000 bond. Both have families, and were previously on good terms.

BABCOCK'S TRIAL.

St. Louis, Feb. 9.—Attorney-General Dyer opened by detailing the history of the conspiracy, which was opened here in 1871, stating that it embraced all distillers, retailers and United States officers and employees in this city, and had its ramifications even in Washington. He cited several of the dispatches alleged to have passed between Joyce, McDonald, Avery and Babcock to show that the latter two persons were engaged in conspiracy and in correspondence with the conspirators. Dispatches between Joyce and Babcock touching the appointment of Col. Constantine Maguire as collector of internal revenue, after the death of Charles W. Ford, were cited. Colonel Dyer said it would be proved that from that time the defendant gave information to the ring here. The department was thwarted in all its efforts to get an investigation that would reveal the frauds for the reason that revenue officers sent here were either bought up on their arrival or advised had been received announcing their contemplated visit, and an opportunity was thus afforded the distillers to straighten up and show regular work. Dyer claimed that it would be clearly shown that Babcock not only had a full knowledge of the frauds that were carried on, but that he aided them in their work and received money directly from Joyce, who mailed it to him. Babcock and Avery were the two men at Washington who kept the ring posted. Even after the indictment of General McDonald, Babcock, it would be proved, was in secret correspondence with him. The evidence, Colonel Dyer said, would, in a measure, be circumstantial, but not a link in the chain should be missing.

St. Louis, Feb. 9.—Acting under the advice of the court, given just before the adjournment last night, the government counsel in the Babcock trial to-day, passed over the conspiracy in 1871 and 1872, and produced testimony to show the expense and operations of the whisky ring from 1873 to 1875. No direct evidence was brought out on Gen. Babcock, the testimony being general in character, tending to show who were in the conspiracy and its extent. Joseph Fitzroy was put on the stand at the opening of the morning session and kept there an hour and a half. Fitzroy was deputy collector of the internal revenue, and after the departure of Conduce, McGrew, in November, 1872, became the actual business man of the ring. Sartentoff, the foreman of Ulric's distillery, was also dismissed.

BRISTOW AND JEWELL.

[Washington Correspondent of the New York Herald.]

The following extracts from a private letter, written by a prominent Georgia Republican, have been handed to the Herald by parties in this city interested in pushing the claims of an aspirant to Presidential honors having much fear from the use of Federal official position in the manner and on behalf of the parties below described. The letter is dated Atlanta, in the last days of January. The extracts are as follows:

MORTON AND THE THIRD TERMERS.

"You needn't be afraid that Grant is going to carry this State or the solid South in the National Convention. It looked so a while ago, and there are still plenty of third termers; but Senator Morton, of Indiana, is at work very busily in some quarters. In Mississippi he has the promise of Governor Ames' support if he can, for his part, keep Ames at the head of the party, and he has zealous friends and agents in other States. You probably saw the effect of their efforts in the way in which the National Committee was swayed the other day in Washington.

THE BRISTOW JEWELL INTRIGUE.

"But even Morton is only a losing horse. If zeal and pertinacity and considerable opportunity can do anything, it begins to be clear that the Bristow and Jewell ticket will carry a considerable Southern force to the convention—so considerable, indeed, that the Southern third termers will make but a moderate array. Not only in Georgia, but all through the Southern States at present—is the effort in progress to secure delegates to the Republican National Convention for the joint ticket of Bristow and Jewell. Whether these gentlemen are themselves cognizant of all that is going on, certain it is that the subordinates in the Treasury and Post-office Departments are working for this particular end."

THE WAR IN CUBA.

[Correspondence of the New York Evening Mail.]

The second important engagement of the so-called winter campaign has been fought in the Siguanilla woods, on the 26th inst., under Brig. Gen. Montaner, leading the left wing of the Spanish army to dislodge a force of rebels, estimated at between 3,000 and 4,000 strong, from the swamp shelter, and, if it were possible, destroy the valuable rebel factories and powder mill known to exist therein; accordingly on the morning of the aforesaid date the camp at Guareiras was astir, and preceded by a strong line of skirmishers, 3,500 infantry, 900 cavalry, with eight mounted howitzers, moved out in martial array. Deploying his forces in line, Montaner leading the center, they advanced into the forest, keeping up an incessant fire, the artillery in the extreme advance clearing the way. No response came from the unseen enemy, retreating slowly in front of the advancing Spaniards, till a clearing was reached, on the inner edge of which an abatis seemed to exist; a halt was sounded, and the extended line contracted to clear this space and carry what appeared to be rude parapets, escorting it on the south.

Half an hour's shelling followed by four pieces in position, and then on the double quick the infantry was led to storm it, half the intervening space traversed, not without inconvenience, because the ground was littered with lately fallen timber and underbrush, and silence reigned, interrupted by the measured and slow retorts of the four pieces shelling at high range, when from the two angles opposite an enfilading artillery fire opened from two masked batteries, well supported by rifle firing. A wavering occurred, and finally a dash was made, gaining only a few steps, for the volleys of the enemy thickened so that hundreds fell per minute; the centre broke and fled back followed by the two extremes.

Just at this time a yell resounded over the din of battle, and Henderson, the American, led 2,000 mounted infantry from under cover, to follow up the pursuit. The spread, and men, horses and equipments became a tangled mass, everything cumbersome was cast down by the retreating enemy—to the north border of the clearing—when the reserve force of 1,500 infantry and cavalry protected the shattered host and checked the rebel advance.

The close of the day found the Spanish army back at Guareiras in a demoralized and pitiable condition, minus 114 officers and 642 men, with a loss of four pieces of artillery.

R. R. BUTLER AND THE SUGG FORT CLAIM.

Hon. R. R. Butler, of Tennessee, has arrived in the city, and is awaiting developments in the Sugg Fort case. He states that he is not aware of any indictment against him, neither have any of his friends been able to ascertain that one has been found. He says he knows of no reason why there should be either, as his connection with the Sugg Fort case was a mere routine matter, such as every Congressman is called upon to perform every week for a constituent. It was, he says, by the merest accident that he was called upon by Mr. Fort, whom he had never seen but once before.

After the adjournment of Congress he was unable to leave the city on account of illness for several days, and while confined to his room he was called upon by Mr. Fort and urged to go up to the Treasury and identify him. He declined to do it on account of his illness, and Mr. Fort afterward brought a carriage to his house and renewed his request and offered to take him in the carriage. Under these circumstances he went with Fort, and all he did in the premises was to identify him as a constituent of his, and when the check was paid he indorsed it to satisfy the parties that Fort was all right, and had it not been for his detention here by sickness some other Tennessee member would probably have done the work for Mr. Fort instead of him. Fort offered to pay him for his services, but he declined to receive anything, and Fort then offered to make a present to his wife and he would not allow that, and he never received a dollar of the money. He says all this has been sworn to before the grand jury, and he does not understand upon what ground an indictment can be found against him.

THERE are 21,255 Baptist churches in the United States, with 13,117 ministers, and a total membership of 1,815,000.

THE GRANT-BRISTOW FEUD.

The reports of a disagreement between President Grant and Secretary Bristow having been revived here with more than usual particularity of detail, your correspondent to-day undertook to sift them to the bottom. It has been stated, among other things, that the issue between the President and the Secretary reached a point where either concession or resignation must speedily ensue. This report your correspondent feels authorized to deny in toto. Secretary Bristow has no notion of resigning. There are some differences of opinion between Mr. B. and Mr. Grant in regard to the pending Whisky Ring suits, and particularly in regard to the Babcock case; but there never have been any discussions which could be characterized as anything more than animated. It is known that the President does not entertain the same kindly feeling for, or the same tender confidence in Bristow, that he does in Belknap or Robeson, for example. On the other hand, he regards Bristow as an aspiring man, not over-scrupulous as to the means which he may employ for his own advancement. In this light the President looks upon his Secretary with something like aversion, but Mr. Grant thinks that to force Bristow out of the Cabinet at this time would almost inevitably make him the next Republican nominee for the Presidency, and this feeling compels the President to the utmost forbearance and circumspection. On the other hand, Mr. Bristow thinks that if he were to leave the Cabinet now, he would be torn to pieces during the three months intervening before the Republican Convention, by the organs of his rival aspirants for the nomination, and he is hence moved to hang on yet a while longer.

Thus are two sets of influences operating to prevent an immediate rupture in the Cabinet, and it may be safely assumed that they will be strong enough to overcome any temporary disagreement that may occur. If Bristow leaves the Cabinet at all it will not occur until within two or three weeks of the assembling of the Republican Convention, and not then unless he can get a better pretext than he has had for several weeks. Had the Henderson case been deferred until the middle of May, it is safe to say that the Secretary would have made it the pretext of resigning for the dramatic effect it might have had upon the Presidential situation. But as the case stands now there is less likelihood of a Cabinet rupture than there has been at any time since the whisky trials began.

A BOYISH CURIOSITY THAT WAS SATISFIED.

[From the New York World.]

There is unhappily too much reason to believe that the horrible and fatal panic at Robinson's Opera-house, in Cincinnati, yesterday, was the deliberate work of a young boy who was fond of his joke. Of course, this young American humorist had no adequate idea of the effect that he would produce by yelling "Fire!" at an opportune moment in the midst of a theatre crammed with women and children. Had he suspected, however faintly, what a thing panic is, a thing more horrible even than mob rage, with its concomitant swoonings, shrieks, imprecations, prayers, desperate struggles for life regardless of other life, he would hardly have tried his experiment. Though it was not as successful as it might have been, the aggregate of death and agony, mental and physical, was doubtless amply sufficient to satisfy his curiosity, and it is not likely that any who were present will, while they live, engage in or contenance practical joking. The catastrophe serves to remind us what materials are to be found in every church, theatre or crowded ferry-boat, needing but the yell of a drunkard, a maniac, a brute or a fool, to be quickened into horror inexpressible.

CHIEF JUSTICE WHITE ON POLYGAMY.

SALT LAKE, Feb. 7.—Chief Justice White, in charging the grand jury, to-day, concerning polygamy, said: "We had better look at squarely in the face, distasteful as it may be to some, and govern ourselves by right, reason and manly discretion in dealing with it. Polygamy must be suppressed in this territory. Mormonism may survive, and, relieved from it, would stand unshackled and free as every other creed or mode of religious worship, shielded and protected by the constitution of our common country; but if Mormonism cannot sever itself from polygamy, it will be to it the bridal of death."

AN AWFUL CALAMITY.

Because a cry of fire was raised by some thoughtless person Saturday afternoon in Robinson's Opera House, in Cincinnati, which was densely packed, there has since been an awful desolation in many a heart in that city.

The first startling cry of fire was followed, in a brief space of time, and within the narrow limits of one building, by scenes of horror never surpassed in this city. There was a rush of weaklings, young and old, in a blind insanity of terror; the slipping and falling of front ranks; the piling up, many deep, of young children, old women, gray headed and tottering at their best, girls in young womanhood and strong men; the wild shrieks of suffocating victims crushed out of sight by their own kind; the gurgle of death in their throats that stretched and gaped for air; the frantic cries of those who yet had breath to cry; the waving of hands in heart rending beckonings for aid—of little dimpled fair hands, of strong hands and of the wrinkled hands of age.

Then the sad dragging out of the dead and the dying and the others injured; of corpses yet warm, but already blackening in the face, of shrieking women, whose senses had gone.

Then, terrible still, the frantic, crazed rush of fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, all in awful uncertainty to look upon the dead and dying, and know if their dear ones were safe or crushed. Perhaps that last feature of it was more terrible than the faces of the disfigured dead. It certainly was to those who had to witness the agony of the bereaved ones. Theirs was the anguish then; the dead were out of pain and trouble.

The scene in, and about the Opera House after the accident was heart-rending. The news of the catastrophe spread like wild fire over the city, and from every direction came people hurrying to the scene until the squares were impassable.

The result of this horror was the killing of nine women and children, and badly wounding of a large number.

THE HOME OF WASHINGTON.

It is understood that the home of Washington at Mount Vernon is to be put in thorough repair before the arrival of visitors to the Centennial, after plans drawn by Mr. Van Campen Taylor, the architect, of New York. Mr. Taylor visited the homestead recently, and is now engaged in drawing plans of the entire building, so that in case of its destruction by fire it may be rebuilt exactly as it now stands. Along the entire east side of the house runs a high piazza facing the river. The length of this is ninety-four feet, and the width fourteen. The balustrade above the piazza is somewhat rotted, and requires to be rebuilt, and the same kind of wood will be employed in the reconstructions as was originally used. At the south end of the house, and opening from Washington's library, there is a portico about ten by sixteen feet in size. This was erected about the year 1790, when Washington added two wings to the original house of Lawrence Washington. This, too, is to be rebuilt, and the necessary repairs will be made early in the coming spring. On the piazza stand the pillar and the bell with which Washington used to summon his horse, which was kept saddled and bridled in readiness for his call.

The fourth Tennessee district has an odd kind of a Congressman in Mr. Riddle. His oddity is fully explained in the following note to the comptroller of Tennessee:

"Enclosed you will find one bond of the State of Tennessee of \$1,000, with coupons from 1st of July, 1875, to 1st of January, 1876, inclusive, attached, and also Riggs & Co's draft on New York for \$311.60, which I donate to the State of Tennessee through you as her comptroller. My predecessor, Hon. Samuel M. Fite, died Oct. 23, 1875, and I resigned my office as clerk and master of the chancery court at Lebanon, Dec. 16, 1875, after my election to Congress; and the above donation consists of my salary as a member of Congress from Oct. 24, to Dec. 17, 1875, which I declined to retain because I held a state office during that period."

—Two men were before Mayor Cass Saturday for disturbing the peace. He fined them one dollar and costs, amounting to seven dollars and something in one case and eight dollars in the other. Costly expense for these hard times.